

## **Department of Public Health**

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

June 22, 2015

The City of El Paso Department of Public Health has determined that your child may have been exposed to an active case of tuberculosis (TB). Tuberculosis is a bacterial illness acquired through breathing-in infected droplets from the cough or sneeze of a person with active TB.

Tuberculosis is not easily transmitted. The likelihood of transmission increases with length of exposure to the cough/sneeze of someone with active TB. As a precaution, the health department is recommending that your child be tested for TB.

The TB test is performed using a blood draw. A needle will be inserted into a vein in your child's arm and a small amount of blood will be collected in a vial. The blood will be tested for TB at the health department lab in El Paso. As a parent/guardian, your written consent is required for collection of the blood sample and performance of the TB test. There is NO CHARGE for the TB test.

To answer your questions about TB and why your child should be tested, an informational session will be held at:

Site: Frank Macias Elementary School

Day: Thursday June 25, 2015

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Following the educational session on June 25, health department staff will be available to draw your child's blood at Frank Macias Elementary from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Parents/guardians are encouraged to bring their potentially exposed child to the educational session and/or the clinic on June 25th.

Blood draws will also be available at Frank Macias Elementary School on Monday, June 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and Tuesday, June 30th from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Your child may also receive testing at the Health Department clinic located at 5115 El Paso Dr., in El Paso, by scheduling an appointment at 915-212-6609.

You will be provided a follow-up appointment to obtain test results and will be advised whether further evaluation of your child is necessary.

Thank you for your willingness to participate in the contact investigation. For further information please visit <a href="https://www.EPHealth.com">www.EPHealth.com</a> and click on TB Control under "Programs".

Sincerely,

Bruce Parsons, Acting Health Director

Dr. Hector Ocaranza, Health Authority

Robert Resendes – Department Head 5115 El Paso Drive | El Paso, Texas 79905 | (915) 212-0200